National Endowment for the Humanities Grants Workshop: Insider Tips

Boca Raton, FL (Feb. 21, 2018) – Scholars and stewards of libraries, museums and the cultural arts came to FAU Tech Runway this week from as far away as Orlando for a workshop with a senior program officer from the National Endowment for the Humanities, one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the U.S.

FAU faculty and staff were among those who took advantage of the half-day Division of Research hosted workshop led by Stefanie Walker, Ph.D., of the agency's research division.

Karin Scarpinato, Ph.D., associate vice president for Research, welcomed participants. The offices of Rep. Deutch's office and U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio offered to assist with grant applications. Grants Coordinator Amanda Emmons of U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio's office made brief remarks, suggesting applicants contact her to request grant application letters of support.

Walker gave an overview of the types of funding offered, highlighting programs in research and original scholarship, lifelong learning opportunities and teaching and learning in schools and colleges, and more.

"We support scholarly engagement with the humanities," said Walker. "We see the work as important. Please consider us your allies and reach out to us."

To demonstrate the rigor the agency places on the peer review of grant applications, Walker conducted an engaging mock panel review with FAU faculty members Adrian Finucane, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of History; Carla Calarge, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature; and Oliver Buckton, Ph.D., professor in the Department of English. The panel judged three proposals, all previously funded by the agency.

Following the workshop, Walker held a limited number of one-on-one meetings with participants who submitted proposed project abstracts in advance.

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